



## **St Michael's CE Primary School**

### **Contingency Plan for Managing in School Transmission of Covid -19**

**The following, from RBWM, provides a brief summary of the government's guidance for schools, in the event a school suspects in- school transmission Covid-19, taken from:**

**Contingency framework: education and childcare settings August 2021**

**[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1011704/20210817\\_Contingency\\_Framework\\_FINAL.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1011704/20210817_Contingency_Framework_FINAL.pdf)**

The latest [DFE guidance](#) outlines how schools are to operate during the Autumn Term and helps us understand how

we will continue to manage and respond to Covid-19 now that it is becoming endemic within our communities.

Whilst some mitigations (enhanced cleaning of hands and surfaces, ventilation and testing) remain in place, other precautions that schools employed successfully last year to reduce the risk of transmission (including bubble arrangements and the use of face coverings in secondary schools) are no longer routinely advised by DfE.

Your local public health teams, council officers and PHE health protection teams will continue to have regular dialogue with you to help support and advise. It is important that you continue to share your views and experiences on implementing the new guidance.

## Contingency Plans

It is important that schools have [contingency plans](#) (or *outbreak management plans*) in place which set out the steps you will take should you suspect in-school transmission is taking place. The guidance moves away from contact tracing for single cases to an outbreak management approach, where cases and their contacts will be followed up by NHS Test and Trace.

DfE guidance gives thresholds that trigger the setting to undertake an additional assessment and seek advice as necessary. Relevant thresholds are:

- 5 cases or 10% (whichever is reached first) test-confirmed cases of Covid-19 within 10 days, among students or staff clustered in a consistent group or cohort, or
- Severe illness (e.g. students or staff admitted to hospital due to Covid-19).

In this event your contingency plans should include actions which formally require Director of Public Health (DPH) approval, including:

- additional coronavirus testing
- the reintroduction of face coverings in certain circumstances
- moving certain activities online, such as open days and parents' evenings
- restricting the mixing of groups by re-introducing 'school bubbles'

## Staying COVID secure – Our commitment:

- We recognise the risk posed by Coronavirus (COVID-19)

to our staff, pupils and their families. Control measures to minimise the risk of infection and the transmission of the virus are provided in the following contingency plan.

- We will put in place appropriate protective measures to ensure, as far as is reasonably practicable, the Health, Safety and Wellbeing of our staff and pupil.
- We will continue to comply with all relevant Health and Safety Legislation
- We will have regard to statutory guidance in particular the guidance issued by

the Department of Education regarding school reopening and implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings against COVID-19

- We have regard to advice and guidance issued by Public Health England

## St Michael's CE Primary Covid -19 Contingency Plan

Revised October 19<sup>th</sup> 2021

When should my child self -isolate or not attend school?	ALL CHILDREN MUST ATTEND SCHOOL UNLESS THEY ARE ILL			
	Come to school	If your child is a close contact but has no symptoms. You should book a PCR test if your child is a close contact and <u>continue to attend school</u> while you wait for the result		
	Stay at home	<b>If your child has any of the Covid -19 symptoms, however mild-</b> they must self-isolate immediately and should book a PCR test (not lateral flow test). The rest of the household does not need to self –isolate if under 18 OR double vaccinated, but all should book a PCR test. <b>If your child has no symptoms but tests positive for Covid-</b> they must self – isolate in accordance with NHS advice.		
	If your child develops Covid-19 symptoms at school, they will be sent home immediately and you should book a PCR test. They should self- isolate until a negative result is received.			
Situation	What we will do		Responsibility	How you will know
From November 1 <sup>st</sup> 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regular reminders symptoms must not to be brought into school</li><li>• Continue previous hand hygiene procedures</li><li>• Continue enhanced cleaning procedures</li><li>• Continuing ventilation procedures</li><li>• Children in class bubbles for lunch and break</li><li>• Drop off and Collection procedures ( See Plan) to encourage social distancing</li><li>• Visitors will be asked to wear face coverings</li><li>• Staff continue lateral flow testing twice a week</li><li>• Continue to follow advice and guidance in accordance with all DfE, RBWM's, PHE and directors of public health.</li></ul>		The headteacher is responsible for interpreting government advice, overseeing procedures and seeing that they are done on a day to day basis and for contacting RBWM, DFE, PHE if advice is needed.	Information will be published on the website.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>After school clubs will continue. Clubs are expected to organise children into bubbles and follow the school's expectations for lateral flow testing and face coverings unless exempt.</b></li> </ul>	<p>All staff are responsible for implementing procedures. Governors are responsible for interpreting government advice with the Headteacher, ensuring that all guidance is followed sensibly and the procedures in place are evaluated. The school relies on parents to also act responsibly to avoid transmission in school where possible.</p>	
<p><b>A single child or staff member tests positive in a class</b></p> <p><b>There are fewer than 3 cases in the class</b></p> <p><b>No other classes are affected</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The child/staff member isolates for 10 days</li> <li>• Remote learning will be provided in line with our policy if the child is well enough to do this</li> <li>• Parents will be contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace to establish likely close contacts- these will be advised to take a PCR test. <b>Children do not need to be off school while they wait for the results of a PCR test <u>unless they have symptoms.</u></b></li> </ul>	<p>As above, plus:</p> <p>Class teachers are responsible for setting work and communicating with parents during self - isolation.</p>	<p>Parents will be informed by the school in a letter and email.</p>

<b>3 Children or staff within a class test positive with 3 days of each other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As above for each positive case</li> <li>• The Headteacher will discuss the outbreak with RBWM/Public Health England and the governors and agree whether any strengthening protective measures need to be in place for 10 school days. Measures may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Classes in bubbles for breaks/lunch</li> <li>➤ Class Collective Worship in class/online</li> <li>➤ Segregated lunchtimes</li> <li>➤ Social distancing procedures implemented in classrooms</li> <li>➤ Educational visits are postponed</li> <li>➤ Resuming staff lateral flow testing if this has stopped after September.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	As above	As above
<b>Covid -19 cases continue to rise rapidly within a 10 day period- multiple classes and staff affected, suggesting Covid-19 is spreading widely in school.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Headteacher receives advice from RBWM/Public Health England/DFE and discusses with governors. Additional measures may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Whole school reverting to staggered, segregated lunch times</li> <li>➤ Reintroducing remote learning for 10 days for affected classes</li> <li>➤ After school clubs cancelled</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	The Headteacher is responsible for consulting public health agencies and arranging to meet with governors.	Social media as above, plus individual communication by email to the parents of children affected by new arrangements.